

Message Text

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ACTION MMO-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-07 NASA-01 PER-01 SS-15

SP-02 ABF-01 NSC-05 OMB-01 /048 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8087

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AMGT, OGEN, AODE, ETRN, AFSP, GW, WB

SUBJECT: MODE - PROPOSED TRANSFER OF NASA POSITION

REF: STATE 106877, STATE 063477, STATE 080366, AND

STATE 106633

1. EMBASSY ACUTELY AWARE OF DEPARTMENT'S PROGRAM TO REDUCE AMERICAN PRESENCE OVERSEAS (STATE 080366 AND PREVIOUS). HOWEVER, IT CONSIDERS NASA'S ESA SPACE LAB PROGRAM OF SUFFICIENT IMPORTANCE TO U.S. EUROPEAN REGIONAL INTERESTS TO JUSTIFY APPROVAL OF THIS REQUEST FOR A MODE INCREASE IN THE FRG. DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE, THOUGH, THAT THE EMBASSY WAS OBLIGATED TO CONSIDER IN ITS REPLY TO THE GORM PROCESS (STATE 063477) THAT NASA, AS PRIMARILY EUROPEAN REGIONAL AND TECHNICAL IN SCOPE, FELL WITHIN THAT 10 PERCENT OF ALL U.S. GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES THAT ARE LEAST IMPORTANT TO ATTAINMENT OF THE MISSION'S GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE FRG.

2. EMBASSY ONCE AGAIN POINTS OUT THAT OTHER AGENCIES SUCH AS NSA, TREASURY, JUSTICE, DOD, ENERGY, ETC. HAVE INCREASED IN STRENGTH IN THE FRG WITHIN THE PAST FEW YEARS, BUT THESE INCREASES, AS WELL AS OVERALL MODE

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STRENGTHS, MUST BE VIEWED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF OUR EFFORTS TO FURTHER OUR INTERESTS NOT JUST IN THE FRG, BUT IN EUROPE AS A WHOLE. AT THE SAME TIME, THESE AGENCIES' ACTIVITIES AND THE INCREASING INTERNATIONAL ROLE OF THE FRG HAVE PLACED NEW RESPONSIBILITIES ON STATE DEPARTMENT STAFF OF THE MISSION, BUT THE MISSION NOW IS OPERATING WITH FEWER STATE PERSONNEL RESOURCES IN

THIS AREA THAN SEVERAL YEARS BACK. THERE HAS BEEN A CONTINUOUS PROCESS OF ATTRITION OF STATE POSITIONS IN GERMANY (27 AMERICANS, WITH NEW CUTS STATE 106633, AND 78 FSLs, SINCE 1972), WHILE OTHER AGENCIES HAVE INCREASED IN STRENGTH (79 AMERICANS) DURING THIS SAME PERIOD. STATE CANNOT CONTINUE THIS UNDESIRABLE TREND OF ATTRITION AND STILL PROVIDE THE SUBSTANTIVE DIRECTION EXPECTED OF IT IN ITS ASSIGNMENT RESPONSIBILITY OF LEADERSHIP IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

3. THE EMBASSY, IN ANY CASE, APPROVES NASA'S REQUEST TO TRANSFER BROOKS TO BONN/COLOGNE DEPENDENT UPON THE DEPARTMENT'S ACTION ON GORM PROCESS EVALUATIONS AND ANY PENDING CUTS IN PERSONNEL RESOURCES OF OTHER AGENCIES IN THE FRG. EMBASSY ACCREDITATIONS PRIVILEGES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT WOULD BE PROVIDED TO BROOKS, IF ASSIGNED, SUBJECT TO HIS STATUS AS A U.S. GOVERNMENT DIRECT HIRE EMPLOYEE CARRYING AN OFFICIAL OR DIPLOMATIC U.S. PASSPORT.
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